

Joint Economic Committee -- Wyoming Economic Snapshot (March 2007)

MIDDLE CLASS SQUEEZE

GAS

	Mar 9, '07	Last Month	Last Year	March, 2001	% Inc. 2001-Today ¹
Avg. Retail Price Per Gallon Unleaded Gasoline	\$2.29	\$2.08	\$2.22	\$1.38	65%

CHILD CARE

	2005	2005
Avg. Monthly Fees for Child Care for an Infant	\$493	Avg. Monthly Fees for Child Care for Two Children \$946

K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION

	2003-2004	State Rank ²
Per Pupil Expenditures On Public Elementary and Secondary Education	\$9,363	12

HIGHER EDUCATION

	2006-2007	2000-2001	% Inc. 2000-01 to 2006-07
Avg. Four-Year Public College Tuition and Fees	\$2,721	\$2,330	17%
Avg. Four-Year Private College Tuition and Fees			

HEALTH INSURANCE

	2004	2003	2002	% Inc. 2002-2004
Avg. Health Care Premium (Single)	\$3,761	\$3,706	\$3,477	8%
Avg. Health Care Premium (Family)	\$9,687	\$9,612	\$8,547	13%

HOUSING

	2006	2005	2004	2005 (Monthly)
Existing Home Sales	13,600	14,300	13,200	Median Housing Costs for Homeowners With a Mortgage ³ \$988
Median Home Value		\$135,000	Median Housing Costs Homeowners Without a Mortgage ³	\$292

TAXES

Families Impacted by the AMT in 2006 ⁴	3,400
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JOBS

	Jan '07	Dec '06	Nov '06	3-Month Change	2006	2001	Change 2001-2006
Unemployment rate	2.6%	3.0%	3.2%		3.2%	3.9%	
Total Non-Farm Private Employment (Jobs)	281,600	281,100	279,900	1,700	274,008	245,400	28,608
Construction	24,100	24,300	24,000	100	22,392	19,542	2,850
Manufacturing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial, Insurance and Real Estate Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional and Business Services	17,700	17,400	17,500	200	16,542	15,675	867
Education and Health Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leisure and Hospitality Services	33,300	32,900	32,600	700	32,625	29,650	2,975
Government Services	66,200	66,200	66,000	200	65,833	61,508	4,325
New Claims for Unemployment Insurance	1,585	1,277	1,307	278	16,627	18,899	-2,272
Mass Layoffs ⁵	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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ECONOMIC SECURITY

INCOME

	2005	2001
Real Median Household Income (2005 Dollars)	\$44,718	\$43,802

HOUSING

	2005	2001		Total Households	% of Households
Homeownership Rate (2006, 2001)	73.7%	73.5%	Housing Costs Greater than 30% of Income (2004)	42,405	21%
Mortgage Delinquency Rate	2%	3.17%	Housing Costs Greater than 50% of Income (2004)	16,795	8%

POVERTY

	2005	2001		2005	2001	% Change Since 2001
Poverty Rate	10.6%	8.7%	Non-Business Bankruptcy Filings	3,183	2,448	30%
Child Poverty Rate	11.0%	13.0%				

SOCIAL SECURITY

	Beneficiaries	Median Monthly Benefit
Social Security (2005)	55,670	\$1,011

HEALTH INSURANCE

	Total 2005	% of Population		Total 2005	% of Population
Employer-Based Coverage	264,970	53%	Medicare Beneficiaries	59,520	12%
Uninsured	74,910	15%	Medicaid Beneficiaries	54,770	11%
Uninsured Children (Percentage of All Children)	13,530	11%			

Sources: The Joint Center for Housing Studies, Harvard University, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Kaiser Family Foundation, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Data, Social Security Administration, Haver Financial Database, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Association of Realtors, AAA Fuel Gauge Report, Federal Highway Administration

¹ Data for 2001 for Regular Gasoline from Federal Highway Administration "Monthly Motor Fuel Reported by States -- Retail Prices of Motor Fuel", 2006 and 2007 data from AAA Fuel Gauge Report.

² The states are ranked from greatest (1) to least (51) expenditure per student, including DC.

³ From the American Community Survey by the Census Bureau "Median Selected Housing Costs" which includes: payments for mortgages, deeds of trust, contracts to purchase, or similar debts on the property ; real estate taxes; fire, hazard, and flood insurance on the property; utilities; and fuels. It also includes, where appropriate, the monthly condominium fee for condominiums and mobile home costs (installment loan payments, personal property taxes, site rent, registration fees, and license fees).

⁴ Number of families that were ensnared by the Alternative Minimum Tax after the passing of legislation in Congress that provided a temporary measure to limit some of the AMT's impact on middle income households in FY 2006.

⁵ Number of initial unemployment claimants in layoff actions involving at least 50 employees from a single establishment.